

CLAIMS

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An article of manufacture; comprising:

- a) a first panel;
- b) a second panel adjoining said first panel;
- c) a sealant over said first panel and said second panel; said sealant material including
 - i. up to about 80% of an epoxy resin;
 - ii. up to about 40% of an epoxy/elastomer hybrid;
 - iii. up to about 40% of a rheology modifier;
 - iv. up to about 5% of a blowing agent;
 - v. up to about 7% of a curing agent; and
 - vi. a filler;
- d) a layer of primer over said sealant; and
- e) a layer of paint over said primer.

2. An article of manufacture, comprising:

- a) a first panel;
- b) a partially cured sealant over said first panel and said second panel; said sealant material including
 - i. up to about 80% of an epoxy resin;
 - ii. up to about 40% of an epoxy/elastomer hybrid;
 - iii. up to about 40% of a rheology modifier other than an ethylene vinyl acetate;
 - iv. up to about 5% of a blowing agent;
 - v. up to about 7% of a curing agent; and
 - vi. about 40 to about 60 % of a filler, said sealant being substantially free of a photoinitiator.

3. An article of manufacture, comprising:

a) a first metal automotive vehicle panel selected from aluminum, steel or reinforced plastic;

b) a second automotive vehicle panel selected from aluminum, steel or reinforced plastic adjoining said first panel;

c) a sealant over said first panel and said second panel; said sealant material including

1. about 10 to about 50 parts by weight of an epoxy resin;

2. about 10 to about 30 parts by weight of an epoxy/elastomer hybrid having about 1:3 to 3:1 parts of epoxy to elastomer;

3. less than about 10 parts by weight of a rheology modifier including an acrylic;

4. up to about 5 parts by weight of an azocarbonamide blowing agent;

5. up to about 7 parts by weight of a curing agent including an amine; and

6. about 40 to about 60 parts by weight of a mineral filler;

d) a layer of primer, applied by electrocoating, over said sealant;

e) a layer of two component polyurethane paint over said primer; and

f) a clear coat layer over said paint.

4. The article of claim 1, wherein said sealant is substantially free of a photoinitiator.

5. The article of claim 1, wherein said sealant is substantially free of ethylene vinyl acetate.

6. The article of claim 1, wherein said sealant is substantially free of ethylene vinyl acetate and a photoinitiator.

7. The article of claim 1, wherein said sealant has been partially cured.

8. The article claim 2, wherein said epoxy resin is present in an amount of about 10 to about 50 % by weight, and said epoxy/elastomer hybrid is present in an amount of about 10 to about 30 % by weight and has about 1:3 to 3:1 parts of epoxy to elastomer.

9. The article of claim 8, wherein said filler is a mineral filler.

10. The article of claim 3, wherein said sealant is substantially free of a photoinitiator.

11. The article of claim 3, wherein said sealant is substantially free of ethylene vinyl acetate.

12. The article of claim 3, wherein said sealant is substantially free of ethylene vinyl acetate and a photoinitiator.

13. The article of claim 3, wherein said sealant has been partially cured.

14. The article of claim 3, wherein said sealant is self leveling at elevated temperatures for providing a smooth paintable surface.